

Hospice Happenings  
October 2014

Olds & District Hospice Society is honored to support those in our communities that face end of life. We often get the question...“What does hospice palliative care mean?”

Our society would like to share with you a definition provided by the **Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association: *Model to Guide Hospice Palliative Care***

**Hospice palliative care aims to relieve suffering and improve the quality of living and dying. Hospice palliative care strives to help patients and families:**

- address physical, psychological, social, spiritual and practical issues and their associated expectations, needs, hopes and fears.

- prepare for life closure and the dying process
- cope with loss and grief during the illness and bereavement.

**Hospice palliative aims to:**

- treat all active issues
- prevent new issues from occurring
- promote opportunities for meaningful and valuable experiences, personal and spiritual growth and self-actualization.

**Hospice palliative care is appropriate for any patient and/or family living with or at risk of developing a life-threatening illness due to any diagnosis, with any prognosis regardless of age, and at any time they have unmet expectations and/or needs and are prepared to accept care.**

**Hospice palliative care may compliment and enhance disease-modifying therapy or it may become the total focus of care.**

As Olds & District Hospice society continues to bring awareness and support to our communities regarding hospice palliative care, know that we have professionals and volunteers in our community who are committed to providing the support that is needed. Let us help you.